AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Twice Amended) An isolated mutant non-structural ("NS") HCV polypeptide comprising a polypeptide having a deletion of at least 200 amino acids from the N-terminal portion of NS3, wherein said deletion functionally disrupts the catalytic domain of NS3 and further wherein said polypeptide comprises the C-terminal portion of NS3.

Please cancel claims 2, 20-31 and 33-42, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Attached hereto is a VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE and PENDING CLAIMS.